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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Control of Private Importers

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176*

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SOURCE

- Under terms of a decree governing imports, all private importing companies have been ordered to cease correspondence with their customers, the state authorities, state-controlled commercial, and foreign dealers pending the issuance of approval for individual private companies to continue in business. It is believed that petitions of private importing companies to continue in business are being reviewed by Jacques Bogdan,\* a member of the Rumanian Workers Party.
- In late August several representatives of foreign firms in Bucharest, including Serge Nadler and Virgil Prasser, were placed under arrest.

**Comment:** Bogdan, who is a Jew, is reported to have been brought into prominence by the group around Ana Pauker in its attempt to gain a voice in the economic sphere. He directed the Societe Generale Mediterranienne, which imported 50,000 tons of grain made available by the Swiss Red Cross in 1946, and took a prominent part in the negotiation of the Italo-Rumanian commercial arrangement in 1948. Bogdan was assisted by "Dodo" Chrissogelos, a Rumanian businessman. In 1947 he and Chrissogelos purchased Ford-Romana together; Chrissogelos was later imprisoned, however, and his company nationalized. When the Gheorghiu-Dej group entered the field of foreign trade and organized five companies which together contributed a monopoly, Bogdan was employed for a time by Export-Puraj, one of the new corporations, but is presently an employee of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

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